MoU for cooperation in Geo-Sciences between India and Canada

2468. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a MoU was signed between India and Canada to set up a framework for mutual co-operation in the fields of geo-sciences; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Mines, Government of India and the Department of Natural Resources, Government of Canada have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the 1st April, 2003, with a view to facilitate bilateral cooperation in the field of Geo-sciences.

(b) The above MoU establishes a framework for cooperation concerning geo-sciences, on subjects of mutual interest *viz.* Environmental geology/geo-hazards; Economic Geology; Geological Mapping, Hydrocarbon basin analysis; Marine/coastal Geology; Exploration Geo-chemistry and Geo-physics; Geo-science information systems, including databases, publications; Remote sensing and data integration, including cartography; and other areas of interest to be mutually agreed upon by the participants.

Availability of Non-conventional products in the Market

2469. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:
SHRI R. K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether basic non-conventional energy products like solar cooking, solar panel lighting, etc. are readily available in markets for consumers;

(b) if so, whether non-conventional energy shops providing end user products have closed down in the past;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, the State-wise details of the number of such shops that are still running ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONYENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) To make non-conventional energy products available to people and provide them after sale repair services, the Government of India has been promoting the establishment of Aditya Solar Shops in major cities/ towns of the country. A total of 40 shops have been established so far in 26 States/Union Territories. According to the reports received from them, most of these shops are keeping a stock of solar energy devices including devices for cooking & lighting for sale to consumers.

(b) and (c) No Sir, none of the shops have been reported to have closed down so far. Two shops at Jaipur & Delhi are, however, inactive due to resource crunch or paucity of funds with the respective State renewable energy agencies to whom the shops were sanctioned by the Ministry.

(d) The State-wise number of shops in operation at present are given in the statement.

Statement

State-wise Number of Aditya Solar Shops in operation at present

SI. No.	Name of State/UT	Aditya shops
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Gujarat	2
5.	Haryana	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
8.	Jharkhand	1
9.	Karnataka	1
10.	Kerala	3
11	Madhya Pradesh	1
12.	Maharashtra	1

1	2	3
13.	Orissa	2
14.	Punjab	1
15.	Rajasthan	1
16.	Tamil Nadu	1
17.	Uttar Pradesh	6
18.	Uttaranchal	1
19.	West Bangai	4
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
21.	Manipur	1
22.	Mizoram	1
23.	Pondicherry	1
24.	Sikkim	1
25.	Tripura	1
	TOTAL	38

Installation of wind-mills in M.P.

†2470. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARi: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wind-mills installed so far in the State of Madhya Pradesh with a view to promote utilization of non-conventional energy sources for irrigation; and

(b) the number of wind-mills proposed to be installed during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) A modified programme on deployment of small wind energy systems such as water pumping wind-mills and small aerogenerator systems was launched by the Ministry during 1993-94. Water pumping wind-mills can be installed for drinking water supply, micro-irrigation and demonstration purposes. The programme is implemented in Madhya Pradesh by the Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam (MPUVN), the nodal agency for renewable energy in the state. No water pumping wind-mill

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.